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# Media Release



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES PRESENT RESOLUTIONS AT SCAG GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**LOS ANGELES** – SCAG’s ongoing efforts to seek the participation of Southern California’s 16 Native American Tribes in the regional planning process took a major step forward with the presentation of a series of resolutions at SCAG’s General Assembly on Wednesday, May 5, 2005.

The Tribal government resolutions represented the latest development SCAG’s efforts to enlist Southern California’s Native American Tribes in SCAG’s planning processes. The resolutions thanked Temecula Mayor Pro Tem and outgoing SCAG President Ron Roberts for his leadership in proactively seeking the tribal participation and expressed the Tribes’ desire to pursue a more formal relationship with SCAG.

“As the region continues to grow, the role of Tribal Governments in the planning process will continue to take on greater importance,” said President Roberts. “I look forward to continuing the dialogue and identifying the most effective means of getting the Tribes’ input into our planning initiatives.”

In November 2002, SCAG adopted a Strategic Plan that included the goal of establishing a role for Tribal Governments in the regional planning process, including voting membership. Since 2003, SCAG has held summit meetings with the region’s 16 Tribal Governments through a series of summit meetings. The summits were designed to explain SCAG’s roles and responsibilities, encourage Tribal Governments to provide their input regarding the region’s transportation plan, and identify how the Tribal Governments may participate in the regional planning process.

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Raymond Torres, Chairman of the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, expressed his appreciation for SCAG's efforts to include Tribal Governments, indicating that he sees this developing relationship as a way to build understanding among local governments, tribal governments and the public at large.

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